

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 28 October to Tuesday 3 November 2015

Summary: Wet, especially in north and west England. Most river flows have increased.

Rainfall

The past week has been wet across most of England, with the highest rainfall totals in the north and west. Rainfall totals have ranged from 15mm in central, east and south-east England to 31mm in north-west England (table 1 and figure 1).

Cumulative rainfall totals for October were below the October long term average (LTA) across much of England. They ranged from just 61% of the October LTA in north-west England to 109% in north-east England (table 1).

River flow

River flows have increased at almost all our indicator sites over the past week. The latest daily mean flows are [normal](#) for the time of year at over half of our indicator sites, with the remaining sites being [below normal](#) or [notably low](#) for the time of year (figure 2).

Outlook

Conditions are expected to remain unsettled over the next 5 days. Over the coming days successive bands of rain will move in from the west bringing rainfall to most areas. The highest rainfall totals are expected over higher ground in the west. On Monday rainfall may turn more persistent, especially over north-west England. Conditions are then expected to remain unsettled for west and north-west England while east and south-east England are expected to turn drier.

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Geographic regions	Latest week: 28 Oct to 3 Nov 2015	Latest month to date: Nov 2015		Last month: Oct 2015		Last 3 months: Aug 2015 to Oct 2015		Last 6 months: May 2015 to Oct 2015		Last 12 months: Nov 2014 to Oct 2015	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	31	4	3	75	61	237	70	522	91	1169	101
north-east	28	3	3	79	109	215	99	440	111	820	100
central	15	3	5	52	86	172	93	345	98	674	94
east	15	5	8	47	92	162	105	320	105	586	98
south-east	15	6	8	56	80	222	116	373	107	745	102
south-west	24	5	5	71	73	287	113	511	115	1022	101
England	21	5	6	62	82	212	99	408	105	805	100

Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015)¹

¹ Notes:

- LTA = long term average rainfall for 1961 – 1990.
- Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC).
- The data is rounded to the nearest millimetre or percent (except when values are less than 1).
- Recorded amounts of rainfall are likely to be underestimated during snow events.

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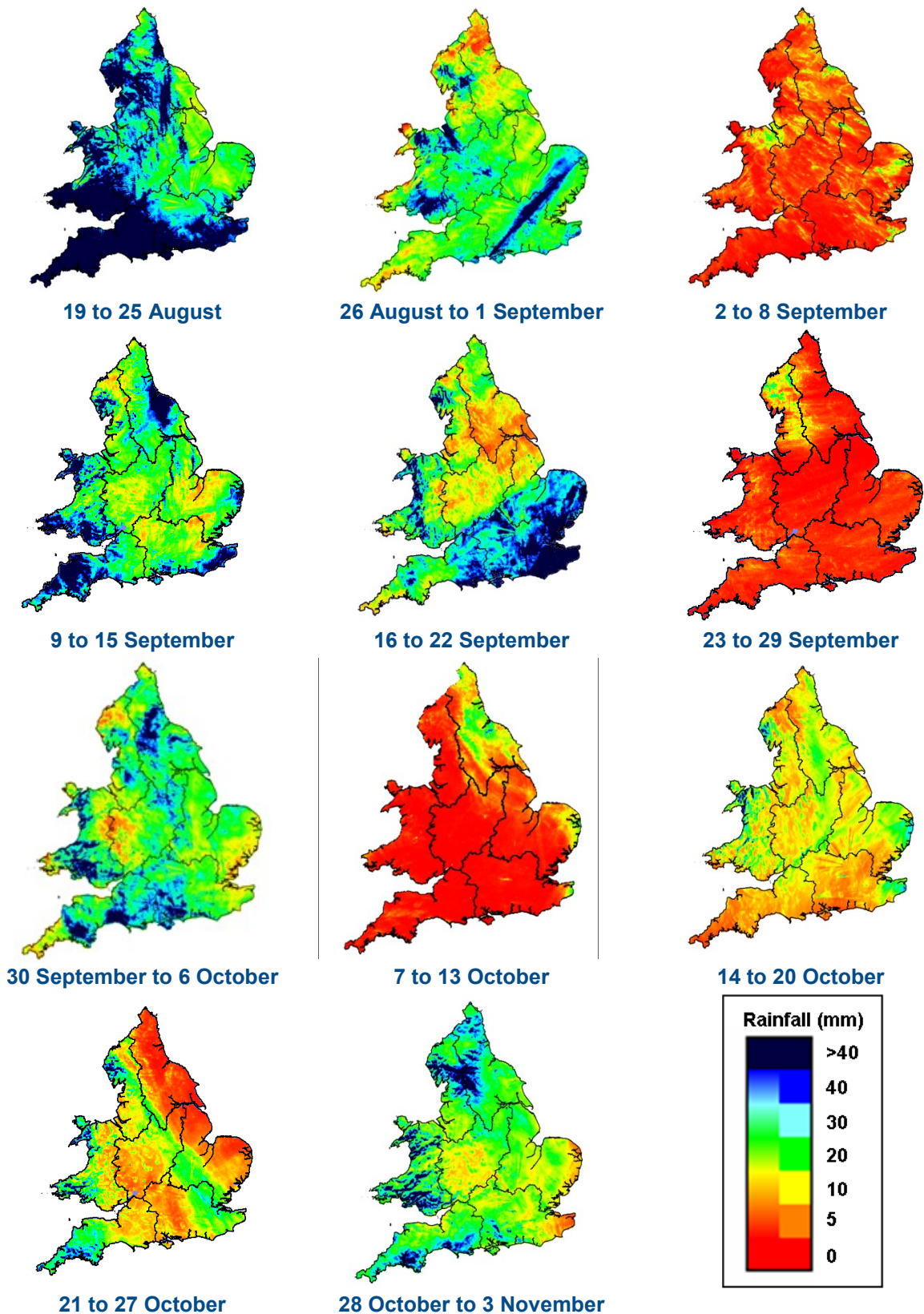
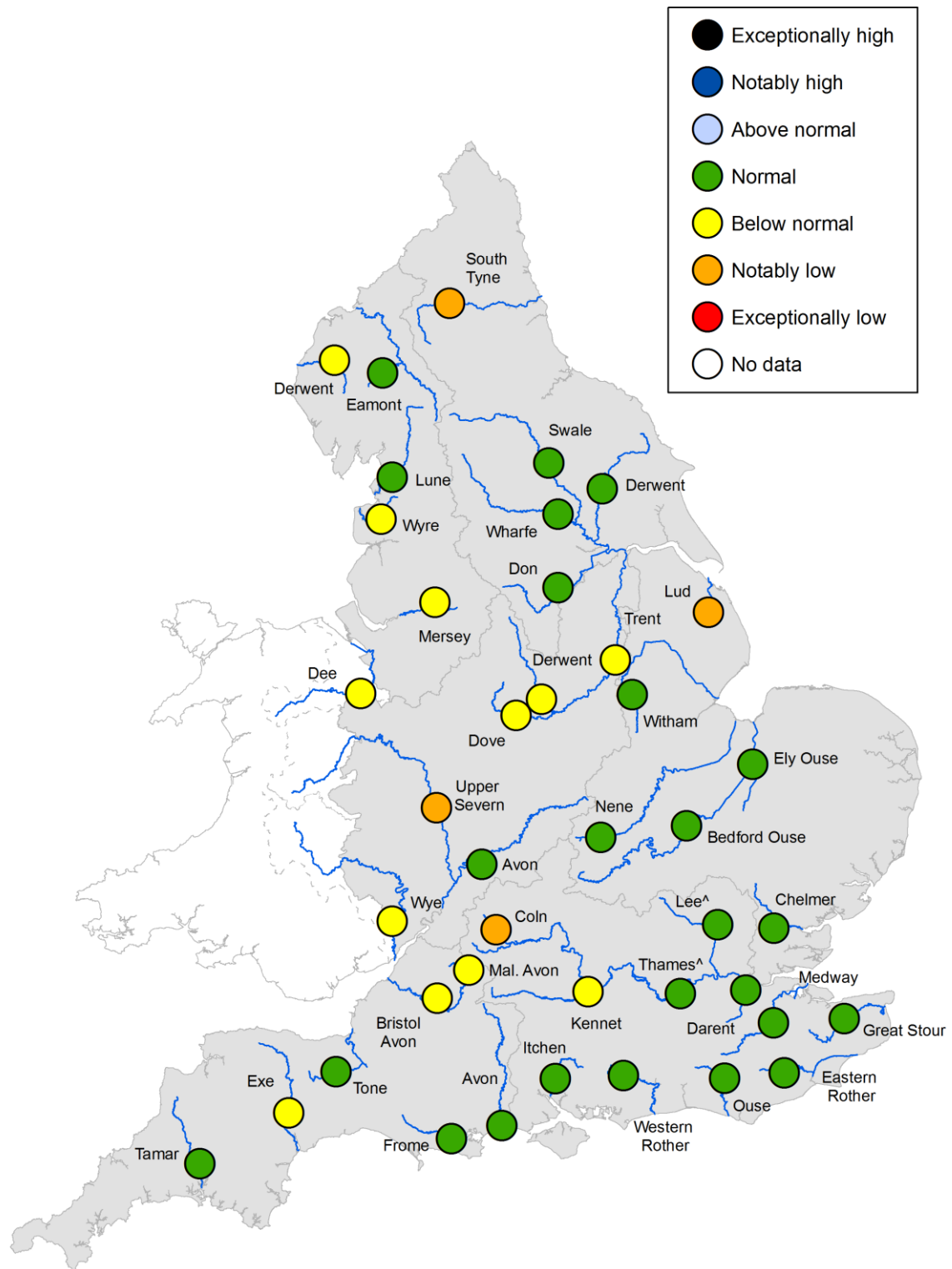


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

River flow



^ – 'Naturalised' flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the Lee at Feildes Weir.

Figure 2: Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows, classed by flow percentile for the same time of year². (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

²Flow percentiles describe the percentage of time that a particular flow has been equalled or exceeded compared to the historic flow record for that site for the time of year. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.

River flow categories

Exceptionally high
Notably high
Above normal
Normal
Below normal
Notably low
Exceptionally low

Value likely to fall within this band 5% of the time
Value likely to fall within this band 8% of the time
Value likely to fall within this band 15% of the time
Value likely to fall within this band 44% of the time
Value likely to fall within this band 15% of the time
Value likely to fall within this band 8% of the time
Value likely to fall within this band 5% of the time